

# NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS COLLEGE

## COURSE SYLLABUS

|   |                 |                        |     |                       |                |
|---|-----------------|------------------------|-----|-----------------------|----------------|
| <i>Course Title:</i> <b>Introduction to General Psychology</b>  |                 |                        |     |                       |                |
| <i>Course Prefix &amp; Number:</i>  | <b>Psyc2301</b> | <i>Section Number:</i> | 346 | <i>Semester/Year:</i> | Spring<br>2019 |
| <i>Semester Credit Hours:</i>   | 3               | <i>Lecture Hours:</i>  | 3   | <i>Lab Hours:</i>     | 0              |
| <p><i>Course Description (NCTC Catalog):</i><br/>           General Psychology is a survey of the major psychological topics, theories and approaches to the scientific study of behavior and mental processes.</p> <p>Additional Comments from Saenz: This course will essentially be an introduction to psychology. Given how broad the field of psychology is, please remember we will only be scratching the surface as to what the field has to offer and all there is to learn regarding the subjects we touch upon.</p> <p>During this course, students are encouraged to ask themselves: How can I apply this knowledge to my life? Regardless of career path, how can an introductory understanding of psychology impact both my professional and personal life?</p> <p>Please show up to class online ready to learn. Take a break from everything else going on in your life. Put it all aside for the three hours of lecture time we have per week, and enjoy your time learning, free of outside stress. Doing so will certainly lead to success in this course.</p> <p>MINIMUM TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENT: To successfully complete this course, you should be able, at a minimum, to email attachments, use word processing programs and simultaneously work on multiple browser windows. You should have a compatible browser and be able to access Canvas.</p> |                 |                        |     |                       |                |
| <i>Course Prerequisite(s):</i> None   |                 |                        |     |                       |                |
| <p><i>Required Course Materials:</i><br/>           King, Laura A. <i>The Science of Psychology</i>. 4th edition. McGraw Hill. ISBN 9781260223545</p>   |                 |                        |     |                       |                |

### INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

|                                |                             |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <i>Name of Instructor:</i>     | <b>Ingeborg Saenz, MPSY</b> |
| <i>Campus/Office Location:</i> | Gainesville, Office 815     |
| <i>Telephone Number:</i>       | (940) 668-7731, Ext. 4343   |
| <i>E-mail Address:</i>         | isaenz@nctc.edu             |

## OFFICE HOURS

|                      | <i>Monday</i>   | <i>Tuesday</i>     | <i>Wednesday</i>  | <i>Thursday</i>    |
|----------------------|---|--------------------|---|--------------------|
| <b>8:30- 9:00</b>    | <b>Phone</b>  | <b>Phone</b>       | <b>Phone</b>  | <b>Phone</b>       |
| <b>9:00-9:30am</b>   | <b>Gainesville</b>                                      | <b>Gainesville</b> | <b>Gainesville</b>                                      | <b>Gainesville</b> |
| <b>9:30- 10:00am</b> | <i>Class</i>  | <i>Class</i>       | <i>Class</i>  | <i>Class</i>       |
| <b>10:00-10:30am</b> |   |                    |   |                    |
| <b>10:30-11:00am</b> |   |                    |   |                    |
| <b>11:00-11:30pm</b> | <i>Class</i>  | <b>Phone</b>       | <i>Class</i>  | <b>Phone</b>       |
| <b>11:30-12:00pm</b> |   |                    |   |                    |
| <b>12:00-12:30pm</b> |   |                    |   |                    |
| <b>12:30-1:00pm</b>  | <b>Gainesville<br/>(Normally here<br/>a lot longer)</b> | <i>Class</i>       | <b>Gainesville<br/>(Normally here<br/>a lot longer)</b> | <i>Class</i>       |
| <b>1:00-1:30pm</b>   |   |                    | <b>Online</b>   |                    |
| <b>1:30-2:00pm</b>   |   |                    |   |                    |
| <b>2:00-2:30pm</b>   |   | <b>Corinth</b>     |   | <b>Corinth</b>     |

- *Additional times available upon request. Contact via email or text, anytime. It doesn't matter how late it is. If I am available, I will respond. Also feel free to request a phone or in-person meeting—we can easily set up a time. **Please do not hesitate to ask for help or chat with me! I am here for y'all!***

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES** (From Academic Course Guide Manual/Workforce Education Course Manual/NCTC Catalog)

| <b><i>At the successful completion of this course the student will be able to:</i></b> |   |
|--|---|
|  | Identify various research methods and their characteristics used in the scientific study of psychology. |
|  | Describe the historical influences and early schools of thought that shaped the field of psychology.    |
|  | Describe some of the prominent perspectives and approaches used in the study of psychology.             |
|  | Use terminology unique to the study of psychology.  |
|  | Describe accepted approaches and standards in psychological assessment and evaluation.                  |
|  | Identify factors in physiological and psychological process involved in human behavior.                 |

## COURSE OUTLINE

### ○ GRADING CRITERIA:

| <i># of Graded Course Elements</i> | <i>Graded Course Elements</i>                                   | <i>Percentage or Point Values</i> |
|------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
|                                    | <b>Additional Activities/Assignments</b>                        | (=50 points) 5%                   |
| <b>3 (x 30 points)</b>             | <b>Make Your Own Study Guides and Mini Exams</b>                | (=90 points) 9%                   |
| <b>10 (x 14 points)</b>            | <b>Quizzes</b>  | (=140 points) 14%                 |
| <b>10 (x 10 points)</b>            | <b>Notes</b>  | (=100 points) 10%                 |
| <b>2 (x 90 points)</b>             | <b>Written Assignments</b>                                      | (=180 points) 18%                 |
| <b>10 (X 14 points)</b>            | <b>Class Participation- Discussion Boards and Live Lectures</b> | (=140 points) 14%                 |
| <b>3 (x 100 points)</b>            | <b>Exams</b>  | (=300 points) 30%                 |
| <b>1000 points</b>                 | <b>Semester Total</b>   | <b>100%</b>                       |

### ○ GRADING SCALE:

|                                     |                                  |                                   |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 90- 100%/ 900-1000 Points: <b>A</b> | 70-79%/ 700-799 Points: <b>C</b> | Below 59%/ 0-599 Points: <b>F</b> |
| 80-89%/800-899 Points: <b>B</b>     | 60-69%/600-699 Points: <b>D</b>  |                                   |

- **INSTRUCTOR RESPONSE:** My goal is to respond to all emails and correspondence within 24 business hours, except for weekends and holidays. All assignments will be graded within two weeks of due date.

### ○ ASSIGNMENT DETAILS:

- In-Class Activities/Additional Assignments:** This category encompasses all graded activities or assignments that fall outside of the normal course elements noted above.
- Make Your Own Study Guides and Mini Exams: Step 1-** Prior to each exam and prior to receiving a study guide authored by the instructor, each student will put together a study guide of their own. In doing so, each student will review, gather, and organize all the information in the chapter grouping that they find worthy of being on the upcoming exam. **Step 2-** Each student will compose his or her own mini exam and answer key! The mini exam must be 20 questions long. Can you put together the best exam? See if one of your questions ends up on the actual exam and earn extra credit!
- Quizzes:** Each week there will be a quiz. Most weeks, when quiz format allows for it, you will have the ability to attempt each quiz twice, and your quiz score for the week will be the higher of the two quizzes. With having two chances on each book content quiz, I hope y'all come to think of getting something wrong/making a mistake as an opportunity to try again, an opportunity for growth :).
- Notes:** At the end of each week you will submit your class notes from the week. These are notes taken at least while watching lecture videos or reading lecture content. You will have the option to submit either 1) photos or scans of your handwritten notes or 2) computer documents including your typed notes.

- E. **PARTI TIME! Class Participation, Discussions:** Each student is required to participate in class three times per week. One of these times must be a response to the prompt presented in the discussion board of the week. For the other two times you participate you have two options. You may respond to other students' postings on the weekly discussion board or you can participate in a live lecture, through the chat box option or using the audio participation feature.
- a. **Participation Competition:** While only required to participate 3 times per week, you can participate more than that! **In fact, the three students that participate the most over the course of the semester (providing valuable questions, insights, or content) will earn 5 bonus percentage points that will be added to their overall grade in the class!**
- F. **Written Assignments/Projects:** There will be two written assignments during the semester. Instructions and guidelines for each will be administered to the students in writing at the time of assignment.
- G. **Exams:** There will be three exams throughout the semester. The final exam will be noncumulative.
- a. There will be an optional CUMULATIVE final exam that can be completed to replace 1 lower exam grade.

### **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

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Regular and punctual attendance is expected of all students in all classes for which they have registered. All absences are considered to be unauthorized unless the student is absent due to illness or emergencies as determined by the instructor. It is the student responsibility to provide documentation as to the emergency for approval and judgment by the faculty member.

Approved college sponsored activities are the only absences for which a student should not be held liable and only when provided by a college official ahead of the absence. Valid reasons for absence, however, do not relieve the student of the responsibility for making up required work. Students will not be allowed to make up an examination missed due to absence unless they have reasons acceptable to the instructor. A student who is compelled to be absent when a test is given should petition the instructor, in advance if possible, for permission to postpone the exam. Student will be dropped from a class by the Registrar upon recommendation of the instructor who feels the student has been justifiably absent or tardy a sufficient number of times to preclude meeting the course's objectives. Persistent, unjustified absences from classes or laboratories will be considered sufficient cause for College officials to drop a student from the rolls of the College. From Board Policy FC (LOCAL)

- Additional comments from Saenz re attendance and classroom etiquette:
  - A. **Online Classroom Attendance:** Attendance will be monitored. I will look to see if you are logging into and spending time in the course on Canvas. As class participation is vital for optimal learning and retention, you will receive credit for demonstrating an active presence in our online class through online discussions.
  - B. **Classroom Etiquette:** Please be courteous to others during class.
    - Standards of courtesy and respect must be maintained at all times in the Canvas "classroom." Please join in any and all discussions, but remember that this is still a "classroom" setting and that respect and consideration are crucial for any intellectual discussion.
    - Discussion areas are for intelligent and respectful airing of ideas. Name-calling and personal attacks are not permitted. Bullying will not be tolerated at all.
    - Any violation of the standards of appropriate online behavior will be reported to the Dean of Students and the college will take appropriate disciplinary action.

### C. Technology-

- It is your responsibility to ensure that you not only know how to log into Canvas and submit an assignment, but also that you understand which file you are uploading and ensure you have uploaded the correct file. Some students have been willing to submit purposefully blank files to Canvas in order to claim a computer error; meanwhile they simply have been continuing work on the assignment. This will not be allowed. It is your responsibility to ensure the correct file is submitted on time.
- Also, it is your responsibility to ensure the correct file type is uploaded.
- If I catch an incorrect file (because you turned in the paper a couple days early) – I will let you fix it. If you submit an incorrect file and I do not catch it until after the deadline, your grade will be docked according to the late work policy presented in this syllabus. We have tech support and library staff that will walk you through the submission process, or you can even set up an appointment with me and I can walk you through it. If you absolutely cannot get Canvas to work – you must email me your completed file prior to the due date, and your email time stamp must show that it was submitted on time.

**D. Make-up Exams/Quizzes/Assignments-** 1) **Exams and Quizzes:** These assignments must be taken by the deadline assigned. If you must miss a deadline, you must provide me with official documentation of an excused absence before you will be allowed to make up the missed assignment. Aside from extreme circumstances/crises, make-up exams and quizzes will need to be completed within one week of the originally scheduled deadline. ***Please communicate with me regarding these kinds of situations, and we will work things out.*** 2) **Late Policy for all other assignments (ex. written assignments):** For each day an assignment/project is late, 10 percentage points are deducted. Meaning if you turn in the assignment the day after it is due, the highest grade you can possibly earn is a 90%.

Last day to withdraw from a course with a “W” is April 4.

### **DISABILITY SERVICES** (Office for Students with Disabilities)

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The Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) provides support services for students with disabilities, students enrolled in technical areas of study, and students who are classified as special populations (i.e. single parents).

Support services for students with disabilities might include appropriate and reasonable accommodations, or they may be in the form of personal counseling, academic counseling, career counseling, etc. Furthermore, OSD Counselors work with students to encourage self-advocacy and promote empowerment. The Counselors also provides resource information, disability-related information, and adaptive technology for students who qualify.

For support, please contact the counselors at (940) 498-6207 or (940) 668-4321. Alternatively, students may stop by Room 170 in Corinth or Room 110 in Gainesville.

### **CORE CURRICULUM FOUNDATIONAL COMPONENT AREA** (For classes in the Core)

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|  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Communication                  | <input type="radio"/> Creative Arts                             |
| <input type="radio"/> Mathematics                    |   |
| <input type="radio"/> Life and Physical Science      | <input type="radio"/> Government/Political Science              |
| <input type="radio"/> Language, Philosophy & Culture | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Social and Behavioral Sciences |

- o Component Area Option
- o American History

**REQUIRED CORE OBJECTIVES** (For classes in the Core)

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- |   |                            |   |                         |
|---|----------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| X | Critical Thinking          | o | Teamwork                |
| X | Communication              | o | Personal Responsibility |
| X | Empirical and Quantitative | x | Social Responsibility   |

**COURSE TYPE**

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- o Academic General Education Course (from ACGM but not in NCTC Core)
- X** Academic NCTC Core Curriculum Course
- o WECM Course

**STUDENT HANDBOOK**

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Students are expected to follow all rules and regulations found in the student handbook and published online.

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

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Scholastic dishonesty shall include, but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, academic falsification, intellectual property dishonesty, academic dishonesty facilitation and collusion. Faculty members may document and bring charges against a student who is engaged in or is suspected to be engaged in academic dishonesty. See Student Handbook, “Student Rights & Responsibilities: Student Conduct ([FLB(LOCAL)]”.

**QUESTIONS, CONCERNS, or COMPLAINTS**

|                                   |                             |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Name of Chair/Coordinator:</b> | <b>Crystal R.M. Wright</b>  |
| <b>Office Location:</b>           | Gainesville Campus, Room 24 |
| <b>Telephone Number:</b>          | 940-668-7731, ext. 4320     |
| <b>E-mail Address:</b>            | cwright@nctc.edu            |

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|------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Instructional Dean:</b> | <b>Dr. Bruce King</b>                         |
| <b>Office Location:</b>            | 1500 North Corinth St, Corinth, TX 76208-5408 |
| <b>Telephone Number:</b>           | 940-498-6464                                  |
| <b>E-mail Address:</b>             | bking@nctc.edu                                |

Additional Comments from Saenz: **Please come to me first with any questions, concerns, or complaints. I am here for you, and want this course to be the best experience possible for each of you! Cheers to the start of an exciting semester! :) Let’s have some fun and grow as people!**

## Tentative Course Calendar

| WEEK | DATES          | TOPIC   | ASSIGNMENTS  | READING          |
|------|----------------|---|--|------------------|
| 1    | Monday, Jan 21 | Syllabus, Course Mechanics, Get to Know One Another<br><br>Introduction to Psychology |  | Chapter 1        |
| 2    | Jan 28         | History of Psych<br><br>Research Methods  | ★Quiz, Notes, Discussion Board/Participation   | Chapter 1 and 2  |
| 3    | Feb 4          | Research Methods Continued<br><br>Biological Basis of Behavior                        | ★Quiz, Notes, Discussion Board/Participation   | Chapters 2 and 3 |
| 4    | Feb 11         | Biological Basis of Behavior  | ★Quiz, Notes, Discussion Board/Participation   | Chapter 3        |
|      |                |   | ★Study Guide for Exam 1  |                  |
| 5    | Feb 18         | Stress and Health Psychology (not on Exam 1)  |  | Chapter 17       |
| 6    | Feb 25         |   | <b>Exam 1 available from Sunday morning (Feb 24) until Monday (Feb 25) at Midnight</b> | Chapters 1-3     |
|      |                | Sensation and Perception  | ★Quiz, Notes, Discussion Board/Participation Over Stress and Health Psychology         | Chapter 4        |
| 7    | Mar 4          | Sensation and Perception  | ★Quiz, Notes, Discussion Board/Participation   | Chapter 4        |

|    |        |   |   |                   |
|----|--------|---|---|-------------------|
| 8  | Mar 11 | <b>NO CLASS</b><br><b>SPRING BREAK!</b>             |   |                   |
| 9  | Mar 18 | States of Consciousness                             | <p>★Paper 1 Topic and Outline Due by Monday at Midnight</p> <p>★Paper 1 Due by Sunday at Midnight</p>               | Chapters 5        |
| 10 | Mar 25 | States of Consciousness                             | <p>★Quiz, Notes, Discussion Board/Participation over States of Consciousness (both weeks)</p> <p>★Study Guide 2</p> | Chapter 5         |
| 11 | Apr 1  | Behaviorism: Classical Conditioning (Not on Exam 2) |   | Chapter 6         |
|    |        | <b>(April 4 Last Day to Withdrawal)</b>             | <p><b>Exam 2 available from Sunday Morning, April 7, Until Monday, Apr 8, at midnight</b></p>                       | Chapters 17, 4, 5 |
| 12 | Apr 8  |   |   |                   |
|    |        | Behaviorism: Operant Conditioning                   | <p>★Quiz, Notes, Discussion Board/Participation Over Behaviorism</p>  | Chapter 6         |
| 13 | Apr 15 | Lifespan Development                                | <p>★Quiz, Notes, Discussion Board/Participation</p>   | Chapter 9         |
|    |        | Social Psychology                                   |   | Chapter 13        |



|                       |        |                         |  |                                     |
|-----------------------|--------|-------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| 14                    | Apr 22 | Personality             | ★Quiz, Notes,<br>Discussion<br>Board/Participation   | Chapter 12                          |
| 15                    | Apr 29 | Psychological Disorders | ★ <b>Paper 2 Topic and<br/>Outline Due by<br/>Friday at Midnight</b><br><br>★Quiz, Notes,<br>Discussion<br>Board/Participation<br><br>★ <b>Study Guide 3<br/>Due by Sunday at<br/>Midnight</b> | Chapter 15                          |
| 16                    | May 6  | Psychological Disorders | ★ <b>Paper 2 Due<br/>Friday at Midnight</b>  |                                     |
| Final<br>Exam<br>Week |        |                         | <b>Final Exam<br/>(noncumulative)<br/>available Sunday<br/>Morning, May 12,<br/><br/>Until Monday, May<br/>13, at Midnight</b>   | Chapters 6,<br>9, 12, 13,<br>and 15 |

**\*\* Syllabus and Course Calendar subject to change. All changes will be announced to students.  
See *CANVAS* for live *Tentative Course Calendar*.**